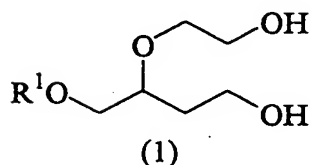
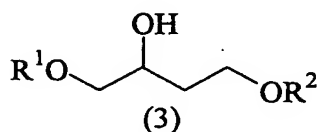


ABSTRACT

A process for preparing a butanetriol derivative of the formula (1) useful as intermediates of medicines



5 wherein R^1 is the same defined below,
 which comprises reacting a compound of the formula (3)



10 wherein R^1 and R^2 are the different protecting groups,
 and an ethylene glycol derivative in a basic condition to
 prepare a compound of the formula (4) or (4a)



wherein R^1 and R^2 are the same defined above,
 and then subjecting the compound (4) or (4a) to selective
 deprotection reaction.